CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A system for providing access to primary media content in digital form,
comprising:

        a server network comprising a download management server, a customer database
storing user information, and a primary content database storing primary media content; .

        a client console connectable for establishing a communications link through a bi-
directional communications network to said download management server;

10   a detachable storage media installable in said client console; said detachable
storage media having a data structure thereon comprising at least one of a user identifier
and a media identifier, wherein

        the server network is configured to transmit to the client console a plurality of
media content items upon request by a user of the client console, and wherein a content
15   provider providing data through the primary content database charges the user only for
items used by the user.

2.   The system according to claim 1, wherein a user identifier is uploaded to said
download management server to enable access to specified content in said primary media
20   content database, and said user information is downloaded into said client console to
trigger execution of specified revenue bearing events, wherein said user identifier
comprises an alphanumeric media ID identifying said detachable storage media.

3.   The system according to claim 2, wherein said specified content comprises a

portion of an overall set of primary contents stored in said contents database, and wherein

said media ID serves to limit access to said specified content only.

4.   The system according to claim 1, wherein said data structure comprises an

authentication code for authenticating access to the download management server.

5.   The system according to claim 4, wherein said specified content comprises a

portion of an overall set of primary contents stored in said contents database, and wherein

said authentication code authenticates access to the download management server which

is responsible for providing access to said specified content.

6.   The system according to claim 1, wherein the media items comprise a plurality of

trigger data items logically associated, respectively, with each of said primary media

content items, and wherein the trigger data items are used to compile and store a usage

history of the primary content items in the customer database.

7.   The system according to claim 6, wherein said data structure further comprises a

data indicator indicating that said detachable storage media is operable through

connection to said bi-directional communications network, and further wherein said data

indicator comprises one of a program for providing network access and a code which

causes execution of a program stored in said media console for providing network access.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein said client console further comprises a local fixed storage device disposed internally or externally of said client console, wherein said requested primary media content is downloaded only said fixed storage device.

5   9.   A method for delivery of primary media content in digital form through a bi-directional communications network, together with auxiliary media content stored on a detachable storage media, comprising the steps of:

establishing a communications link between a client console and a download management server through said bi-directional communications network, said client

10   console having said detachable storage media detachably installed therein;

transmitting user identifier data contained on said local storage media and a request for primary media content to said download management server, in order to retrieve said primary media content from a contents database;

downloading into said client console from said download management server said

15   primary media content;

recording usage of primary media content by the user;

charging the user for the primary media based on portions of the primary media actually used.

20   10.   The method according to claim 9, wherein said user identifier data comprises an alphanumeric media ID identifying said detachable storage media and said local storage media further contains an authentication code which enables access to said download management server, further comprising the step of receiving said media ID and said

authentication code in said download management server, wherein one of said

authentication code and said media ID serves to limit access to specified content only

from among said primary media content.

5   11.   The method according to claim 9, the media content comprises one or more data

content items associated with a respective payment trigger item, said payment trigger

item operable to compile and store usage information of the media content in a customer

database.

10   12.   The method according to claim 9, wherein said step of downloading into said

client console from said download management server comprises storing said primary

media content on a local fixed storage device disposed internally or externally of said

client console.

15   13.   A method of operating a client console having a detachable storage media

installable therein while connecting with a download management server through a bi-

directional communications network, comprising the steps of:

downloading primary content data from a content server to a client computer upon

request by a user;

20   scheduling downloading of the contents from a contents database of content

server;

writing the downloaded contents into a re-writeable storage media coupled to the

client computer

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recording a usage history of the downloaded primary content data when the

downloaded contents is used or otherwise accessed by the user; and

charging a fee based on the usage of the contents.

5   14.   The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of communicating

usage of the primary contents to a customer database maintained by the content provider.

15.   The method according to claim 14, wherein the downloaded primary content

comprises time sensitive content data, and further comprising the step of deleting expired

10   contents that are not used by the user upon the occurrence of a pre-determined event.

16.   The method according to claim 15 wherein the pre-determined event comprises

the lapse of a specified period of time.

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